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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

KARIMI, PEGEMAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2629

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/07/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on 05/13/2008 has been entered and considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4, 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hashimoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,554,980).

As to claim 1, Hashimoto discloses a display apparatus for presentation (Fig. 4) comprising:

a pointing device (1) equipped with means for detecting angular velocities (2 and 3) in horizontal and vertical directions (col. 14, lines 5-8) and

means (12) for transmitting detected angular velocity information (col. 15, lines 17-24) and

an image display device (21) having means (26 and 132, Fig. 3) for receiving angular velocity information (movement of the pointing device) transmitted from the pointing device (1), (col. 15, lines 45-50) and equipped with a function of moving (function of moving front, back, left, and right), (col. 15, lines 25-28) a selection marker (108) across a plurality of menu items (222) arranged in vertical and horizontal directions (menu items 222 are arranged in a vertical and horizontal direction), (col. 15, lines 45-50) and

displayed on a screen in accordance with the received angular velocity information (col. 21, lines 61-65),

the display apparatus (21) for presentation characterized by provision of means (9) for determining a menu item (when the switch 9 on the pointing device is pressed) to which the selection marker should be moved (when the cursor has moved into a desired icon), (col. 15, lines 51-56) in accordance with the duration of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions), (col. 14, lines 5-14) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

wherein the selection marker (108) moves directly to a menu item (when the cursor has moved into a desired icon), (col. 15, lines 51-56) when the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start

to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 4, this claim differs from claim 1 only in that the limitation “equipped with a picture-in-picture function to move or enlarge a sub-screen displayed on a screen in accordance with the received angular velocity information” and “the display apparatus for presentation characterized by moving or enlarging the sub-screen by a distance”.

Hashimoto teaches the image display device equipped with a picture-in-picture function (Fig. 6, there are 4 pictures/menus) to move or enlarge a sub-screen displayed on a screen (cursor 108 selects a desired menu and the selected menu enlarges) in accordance with the received angular velocity information (depending on the elements 2 and 3, which sense the angular velocity the desired menu is selected) and the display apparatus for presentation characterized by moving or enlarging the sub-screen by a distance (e.g. by selecting the VTR menu the selected menu enlarges from its current size to a size of covering the screen, Fig. 8), (col. 15, lines 51-56).

wherein the distance moving or enlarging the sub-screen over an interval of time increases (when the cursor has moved into a desired icon for example VTR by selecting the VTR menu the selected menu enlarges from its current size to a size of covering the screen), (col. 15, lines 51-56) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to

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Y1, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 6, this claim differs from claim 1, only in that the limitation “equipped with a function of moving a cursor or pointer displayed on a screen” and “means for moving the cursor or pointer by a distance” are additionally recited.

Hashimoto teaches an image display device equipped with a function of moving a cursor or pointer (108) displayed on a screen (col. 21, lines 62-65) and means (2 and 3) for moving the cursor or pointer by a distance (moving the cursor between icons 222).

wherein the distance over an interval of time increases (the distance in the Y direction increases over an interval of time of e.g. zero to t_1) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start

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to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 7, this claim differs from claim 6 only in that the limitation “means for changing the rate at which the pointer moves” is additionally recited. Hashimoto teaches means (2 and 3) for changing the rate at which the pointer moves (depending on the angular motion of the remote control at the angle θ_1 the cursor moves a distance of x_1 and at the angle θ_2 the cursor moves a distance of x_2 and so on), (col. 23, lines 44-50).

As to claim 8, Hashimoto teaches a display system comprising:

a display device (100) and

a pointing device (1) associated with the display device (pointing device 1 controls a cursor, 108, which chooses the icons on the display device) and for use to operate upon an object (108) to change displayed on a display screen by said display device (upon selection of VTR in the menu 220 of Fig. 7, the color of the cursor changes and the VTR mode menu screen 223 appears).

the display system characterized by including:

a position information detecting means (2 and 3) for detecting position information on positions indicated by said pointing device (col. 14, lines 15-18);

a move information sampling means (67, 68, and 68a) for sampling the move distance between said indicated positions (e.g. positions before and after the position Y_1) per unit time (from the start to time t_1 cursor moves to position Y_1 , from position t_1

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to (t_1+t_2) the cursor does not move, and then from (t_1+t_2) to time t the cursor moves), (col. 29, lines 2-7), based on the position information detected by the position information detecting means (as can be seen in Fig. 45A, the output of the angular speed depends on detectors 2 and 3), (col. 29, lines 10-14); and

a change amount determining means (67, 68, and 68a, the distance through which the cursor 108 moves when the delay time t of the delay circuit 67 is equal to t_1+t_2) for determining the amount of change of said object to change on said display screen (col. 28, lines 65-67), based on the duration of sampling (from start to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and then from (t_1+t_2) to t) during which the move distance between said indicated positions per unit time (from start to t_1 the cursor moves to position Y_1 , from time t_1 to (t_1+t_2) the cursor does not move, and then from time (t_1+t_2) to t the cursor moves once again), sampled by the move information sampling means (67, 68, and 68a), (col. 28, lines 60-67, & col. 29, lines 2-6), exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y_1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

wherein the amount of change of the object over an interval of time increases (changing/increasing the Y direction of the object from the position zero to Y_1 in the time interval of t_1) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to Y_1 , Fig. 45B)

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obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y_1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 9, Hashimoto teaches a pointing device (1) associated with a display device (pointing device 1 controls a cursor, 108, which chooses the icons on the display device) and for use to operate upon an object (108) to change displayed on a display screen by the display device (upon selection of VTR in the menu 220 of Fig. 7, the color of the cursor changes and the VTR mode menu screen 223 appears),

the pointing device (1) characterized by including a position information detecting means (2 and 3) for detecting position information on positions indicated by the pointing device (col. 14, lines 15-25), wherein, based on the position information (position information from elements 2 and 3), the position information detecting means samples the move distance between said indicated positions (e.g. positions before and after the position Y_1) per unit time (from the start to time t_1 cursor moves to position Y_1 , from position t_1 to (t_1+t_2) the cursor does not move, and then from (t_1+t_2) to time t the cursor moves), (col. 29, lines 2-7) and

determines the amount of change of said object to change on said display screen (the cursor 108 moves when the delay time t of the delay circuit 67 is equal to t_1+t_2),

based on the duration of sampling (from start to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and then from (t_1+t_2) to t) during which the sampled move distance between said indicated positions per unit time exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y_1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

wherein the amount of change of the object over an interval of time increases (changing/increasing the Y direction of the object from the position zero to Y_1 in the time interval of t_1) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to Y_1 , Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y_1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 10, Hashimoto teaches a display device (100) associated with a pointing device (pointing device, 1, controls a cursor, 108, which chooses the icons on the display device) for use to operate upon an object (108) to change on a display screen (upon selection of VTR in the menu 220 of Fig. 7, the color of the cursor changes and the VTR mode menu screen 223 appears),

the display device characterized by including:

a change amount determining means (67, 68, and 68a), wherein, based on position information (information from elements 2 and 3) on positions indicated by said pointing device (positions in horizontal and vertical directions), the change amount determining means samples the move distance between said indicated positions (position before and after Y1) per unit time (from start to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and then from (t_1+t_2) to t) and

determines the amount of change of said object to change on said display screen (the cursor 108 moves when the delay time t of the delay circuit 67 is equal to t_1+t_2), based on the duration of sampling (from start to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and then from (t_1+t_2) to t) during which the sampled move distance between said indicated positions per unit time exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

wherein the amount of change of the object over an interval of time continuously increases (changing/increasing the Y direction of the object from the position zero to Y1 in the time interval of t_1) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling during which the sampled move distance (e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) between said indicated positions per unit time exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 11, this claim differs from claim 8 only in that the limitation “an angular velocity detecting means for detecting angular velocity information on positions indicated by said pointing device” and “a move information sampling means for sampling the move distance between said indicated positions per unit time, based on the angular velocity information detected by the angular velocity detecting means” is additionally recited.

Hashimoto teaches an angular velocity detecting means (2 and 3), for detecting angular velocity information on positions indicated by said pointing device (col. 14, lines 15-25) and a move information sampling means (67, 68 , and 68a) for sampling the move distance between said indicated positions (e.g. positions before and after the position Y1) per unit time (from the start to time t_1 , from time t_1 to time (t_1+t_2) , and then from time (t_1+t_2) to time t), (col. 9, lines 2-7), based on the angular velocity information detected by the angular velocity detecting means (col. 29, lines 10-14), (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions).

wherein the amount of change of the object over an interval of time increases (changing/increasing the Y direction of the object from the position zero to Y1 in the time interval of t_1) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling during which the sampled move distance (e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) between said indicated positions per unit time exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it

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exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

As to claim 12, Hashimoto teaches a display system comprising:

a display device (100) and

a pointing device (1) associated with the display device (pointing device 1 controls a cursor, 108, which chooses the icons on the display device) and for use to move a pointer position pointing on a display screen displayed by said display device (col. 21, lines 62-65), the display system characterized by including:

a position information detecting means (2 and 3) for detecting position information on positions indicated by said pointing device (col. 14, lines 15-18);

a move information sampling means (67, 68, and 68a) for sampling the move distance between said indicated positions (e.g. positions before and after the position Y_1) per unit time (from the start to time t_1 cursor moves to position Y_1 , from position t_1 to (t_1+t_2) the cursor does not move, and then from (t_1+t_2) to time t the cursor moves), (col. 29, lines 2-7), based on the position information detected by the position information detecting means (as can be seen in Fig. 45A, the output of the angular speed depends on detectors 2 and 3), (col. 29, lines 10-14); and

a move distance determining means (67, 68, and 68a), (the distance through which the cursor 108 moves when the delay time t of the delay circuit 67 is equal to t_1+t_2) for determining a distance by which said pointer position should be moved (from start to t_1 the cursor moves to position Y_1 , from time t_1 to (t_1+t_2) the cursor does not

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move, and then from time (t_1+t_2) to t the cursor moves once again), based on the duration of sampling (from start to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) during which the move distance between said indicated positions per unit of time, sampled by the move information sampling means, exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y_1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

wherein the distance over an interval of time increases (changing/increasing the Y direction of the object from the position zero to Y_1 in the time interval of t_1) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling during which the sampled move distance (e.g. move to Y_1 , Fig. 45B) between said indicated positions per unit time exceeds a threshold continuously (the cursor moves up to Y_1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto in view of Gillick (U.S. Patent No. 5,530,455).

As to claims 2 and 5, this claim differs from claim 1 only in that the claims additionally recites the limitations “equipped with a function of presenting an indicator for value setting in a menu item displayed on a screen and making the indicator slide in a value incremental or decremental direction in accordance with the received angular velocity information” and “determining the amount of increment or decrement of the indicator for value setting”.

wherein the amount of increment or decrement of the indicator (108) over and interval of time increases (during the time t the cursor moves up/increases from the position zero to $Y1$ and from $Y1$ towards $Y2$) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to $t1$, from $t1$ to $(t1+t2)$, and from $(t1+t2)$ to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to $Y1$, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to $t1$, from $t1$ to $(t1+t2)$, and from $(t1+t2)$ to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to $Y1$ from the start to time $t1$ but when it exceeds $t1$ it does not move from $t1$ to $t2$, then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds $t1+t2$), (col. 29, lines 2-7),

selection marker (108) moves directly to a menu item (when the curser has moved into a desired icon), (col. 15, lines 51-56) when the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to $t1$, from $t1$ to $(t1+t2)$, and from $(t1+t2)$ to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device

(e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2).

Hashimoto does not teach making the indicator slide in a value incremental or decremental. Gillick teaches a pointing device (10) and an image display device (Fig. 3) is equipped with a function of presenting an indicator (27, scrolling bar), (decoder 63 determines the speed of scrolling and the amount of scrolling) for value setting in a menu item (value of roller motion, wherein there will be one line scroll for each vertical scroll message) displayed on a screen (scroll one line, Fig. 3) and making the indicator slide in a value (value of roller motion) incremental or decremental direction in accordance with the received angular velocity information (col. 2, lines 49-59).

determining the amount of increment or decrement of the indicator for value setting (col. 6, lines 3-9). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have added the indicator slide in a value incremental or decremental of Gillick to the image display device of Hashimoto because the turning of the roller in conjunction with driver software, generates scroll signals to windows which mimics the action of the user clicking in the scroll controls, but without requiring the cursor to be moved to the scroll controls (col. 2, lines 31-34).

As to claim 3, this claim differs from claim 1 only in that the limitations “equipped with a panning function of moving an image displayed on a screen in accordance with the received angular velocity information” and “means for panning by a distance” are additionally recited.

wherein the distance over an interval of time increases (moving up in the vertical direction) while the number of cycles (3 cycles), (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) of sampling the angular velocities (the angular speed detectors detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions) during which the move distance of the pointing device (e.g. move to Y1, Fig. 45B) obtained for every sampling cycle (from time zero to t_1 , from t_1 to (t_1+t_2) , and from (t_1+t_2) to t) from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously (the cursor moves up to Y1 from the start to time t_1 but when it exceeds t_1 it does not move from t_1 to t_2 , then the cursor moves once again when the angular velocity exceeds t_1+t_2), (col. 29, lines 2-7),

Hashimoto does not mention moving an image displayed on a screen in accordance with the received angular velocity information.

Gillick teaches the panning distance over an interval of time increases (scrolling occurs with ordinary counts from the shaft angle encoder, the rolling/scrolling continues at a constant rate until a terminating event occurs. The function of up arrow of a keyboard can be implemented by the scroll mouse for the function of moving up an image displayed on a screen in accordance with the received angular velocity information).

Gillick teaches image display device (Fig. 7) equipped with a panning function of moving an image displayed on a screen (moving the image one line for each scroll message, col. 5, lines 34-36 and col. 6, lines 1-2) in accordance with the received angular velocity information (col. 6, lines 3-7) and means (24) for panning by a distance (the image will scroll/move one line for each scroll message).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 05/13/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the applied references fail to teach or suggest the newly recited features of claim 1. The newly added limitation to claim 1 is taught by Hashimoto wherein it teaches a cursor moves into a menu item according to a number of cycles ranging from zero to time t_1 , from time t_1 to time (t_1+t_2) , and from time (t_1+t_2) to time t , which the angular speed detects the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and vertical directions and there is a move distance of the cursor for every time interval (e.g. distance from zero to Y_1) when the angular velocity exceeds an interval value (e.g. t_1 or (t_1+t_2)).

Applicant argues that it appears that the remote control merely guides the cursor in a desired direction. Hashimoto mentions (col. 15, lines 45-50) that by changing the orientation of the remote control unit the cursor is brought toward a desired icon on the screen, which indicates that the remote control guides the cursor in a direction to a desired icon on the screen.

Newly added limitations in claims 2-4, 6, 8-12 teach similar subject matter and are similar to the new limitation of claim 1. In claim 2 the applicant mentions "the amount of increment or decrement of the indicator" this limitation is broad and can be interpreted as "movement of the selection marker", which is taught in claim 1.

In claim 3 "an increase in the panning distance", where in panning is said to be a function of moving an image displayed on the screen. The function of panning is taught by Gillick, which can be combined with Hashimoto, wherein the movement of an image in Gillick can be added to the movement in Y direction of the cursor of Hashimoto and the image can be moved in Y direction according to an angular velocity during the time intervals.

In Claim 4 the limitation of "enlarging the sub-screen over an interval of time", wherein by moving the cursor during the time intervals on the menu of e.g. VTR and selecting the icon VTR the icon becomes enlarged.

In claims 6 and 12 the limitation of "the distance over an interval of time" is similar to the limitation in claim 1, which teaches the movement of the cursor.

In claims 8-11 the limitation of the amount of change of the object over an interval" is also broad and similar to claim 1, wherein the amount of change of the object is interpreted as the movement of the selection marker in the time intervals.

Applicant argues that the slope of the distance over time for lines M and M38 remain constant and the change in distance over time is zero and does not increase. The reference of Hashimoto teaches in the interval of zero to t_1 and from (t_1+t_2) to t there is continuous movement of the cursor, during the time t_1 to (t_1+t_2) since the user

is not moving the cursor the position in the Y direction becomes constant, which can be concluded that the distance/change of the movement becomes zero.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquiry

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PEGEMAN KARIMI whose telephone number is (571)270-1712 and direct fax number is (571)270-2712. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanh Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7772. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Pegeman Karimi/
Examiner, Art Unit 2629
August 2, 2008

/Chanh Nguyen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2629